



Paul and Lesley Evans

Christmas News 2023

Dear Friends and Family,

Recent efforts to sort through our many photos and slides have brought back to us many memories and thankfulness to God for His undeserved goodness and provision over the years since we handed our lives over to Him. The process is ongoing and continues to prompt good memories of family life, friends and contacts, countries visited, lived and worked in, and experiences along the way.

Since our marriage in 1969, we have had many different homes and locations. In Africa, our homes began in mud-brick houses in rural Malawi, and later to more substantial homes in Blantyre and Harare. Now, back in the UK, we enjoy the comfort of a spacious flat in Bidston, on the Wirral. God has been wonderfully faithful to His promise that if we seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, all that we need will be added to us.

Now 'retired' from public ministry, we continue to be active in a local Evangelical Anglican Church, St Mary's in Upton. It is a fairly large outreaching church that is involved in the local community in different ways and through a variety of activities, which we can invite new acquaintances to be involved in. Lesley is involved there practically and in outreach, such as Alpha courses, and care home visits. Paul joins the men's SMART group (St. Mary's Active Retired Team) for visits to places of interest, meals out and outreach breakfasts with an invited speaker.



LIGHT OF THE WORLD
JESUS
MESSIAH
GOOD SHEPHERD
REDEEMER
LAMB OF GOD
IMMANUEL
PRINCE OF PEACE
SAVIOUR
MIGHTY GOD
KING OF KINGS



A canal barge trip

Some walk alongside on the tow path and there's also plenty of chatting along the way. In the Bible studies we have tackled some interesting topics and generally encourage one another to progress in our faith. We have also become good friends.

We are still well and fairly active. Paul is heading for 79 in January and I'm 77 on Christmas Eve. Jonathan plans to join us for the weekend to celebrate Lesley's Birthday and Christmas before heading back to his work at Queens Hospital in Nottingham. We have seen him occasionally through the year, but his shifts, backlog of surgery and covering for the doctors on strike have kept him extremely busy. Paul's cancer scans continue to show that he remains cancer free, and he keeps active in his outdoor gym – an allotment. Another perk is that we get a supply of veg and fruit from his efforts. He is now busy digging and weeding to prepare the ground for winter and next season.



Carol singing with the Salvation Army band at St. Mary's



A prepared plot



The Wirral Nomads

Lesley continues her Monday walks with the Wirral Nomads through the Clwydian Range, Cheshire, Liverpool and the Wirral.

There's also the never-ending household demands and caring for visitors and guests.



The Nomads hiking near Ruthin

Holidays have been a bonus this year. We made first ever visits to Norfolk and Nottingham with a couple of weekends in Warner Hotels. Another weekend is coming up soon in their hotel in Alverson Hall, near Nantwich. Their special offers are designed for elderly guests like us, which means you have to dodge a few Zimmer frames en route to the restaurants or spa. However, the venues are excellent with spacious rooms, good food and entertainment. It's like a sea cruise without the water!

Sadly, we've had a number of funerals this year, some were good and close friends, and recently Lesley's nephew died, which was an unexpected shock. One funeral was of a friend from Church, Frank, who was 82, who was a fine Christian and family man. The eulogies from his family and grandchildren were so complementary about his love for them and faith in God. These impacted all in the service and two young women were particularly affected, saying that it left them feeling that despite a good life, they had a void within them. Such is the power of a life in God, when the 'God shaped hole' within us is filled with Him.

It seems to us that present conditions in the world with the troubles, divisions, anger and hatred in society warrant, perhaps more than ever, a new outreach by the churches declaring the good news from God.

Christmas is a time to not only enjoy family, but to also remember and act upon the promise God made to mankind in the angelic announcement made at the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ,

'Do not be afraid.

I bring good news that will bring great joy to all people.

Today, a Saviour has been born who is Christ the Lord.

(Luke 4:2)

Wishing you a Blessed and joyful Christmas in 2023.

Love from Paul and Lesley Evans

Contact details

Home address: Flat 4, Thermopylae Court, Vyner Road South, NOCTORUM, Wirral CH43 7XN

Paul email: pevanszw@icloud.com

Lesley email: lesleyjevans@icloud.com

Home phone: 0151 653 7141 Paul mobile: 07835 944886 Lesley mobile: 07716 105537

Letter sent out by Charles Walker

25 Dairsie Meadows, Dairsie, CUPAR KY15 4BF Email: candjwalker@sky.com